

FLD Biobaler WB55 Demonstrations to be Held in Minnesota

FAIRMONT, Minn. (09/08/2009) – As woody and herbaceous biomass becomes more and more viable for renewable energy, equipment companies have started engineering machines capable of harvesting the biomass quickly and efficiently. One such company is FLD Biomass Technologies of Canada who specialize in the design and manufacturing of machinery for agricultural and forestry production. A number of organizations are proud to be funding a demonstration tour of FLD Biomass Technologies' FLD Biobaler WB55 in various locations around the state of Minnesota from September 17 to September 25.

The FLD Biobaler WB55 is an all-in-one tractor-pulled machine capable of cutting, compacting, and baling biomass up to four inches in diameter and 25 feet in height. This maneuverable machine has a rotating blade or hammer cutting system that has a low power requirement and produces naturally drying bales that can be transported using standard equipment. The Biobaler is suitable for many woody crops including: willow, poplar, aspen, alder, under story vegetation, invasive woody vegetation.

FLD Biobaler WB55 Demonstration Tour Schedule:

September 17

Waseca - U of M SROC Gregg Johnson 10am – 3pm Willow/Poplar
Gregg Johnson's Contact Info: 507-837-5617 johns510@umn.edu
Directions to SROC Site: SROC is located on the western edge of Waseca at the intersection of State Hwy 14 and Co Rd 57. Travel South on Co Rd 57. Turn right (west) at the T-intersection with 350th Ave. Travel approximately 1.0 mile to the Agricultural Ecology Research Farm (south side of 350th Ave.).
***Note:** Due to travel time, field day will start at 12pm.*

September 18

Madelia – Rural Advantage Jill Sackett 10am – 3pm Woody Invasives
Jill Sackett's Contact Info: 507-238-5449 sacke032@umn.edu
Directions to Site: From State Hwy 60 take the Co Rd 9 Exit to Madelia. Immediately west of the on/off ramp is Co Rd 13 (Hammond Hwy). Travel about 5 miles west on Co Rd 13. The site will be on the north side of Co Rd 13 about 1 mile east of the town of Grogan.

September 19

Faribault – The Nature Conservancy and MN DNR Neal Feeken 10am – 3pm Woody Invasives
Neal Feeken's Contact Info: 612-331-0738 nfeeken@tnc.org
Directions to Site: Faribault Wildlife Management Area is SE of Faribault. Travel South on Co Rd 45 for 1.0 mile. Turn east (right) and travel 0.5 mile on township road.

September 20

Afton - Belwin Conservancy Eric Palmen 10am-3pm Woody Invasives
Eric Palmen's Contact Info: 651-436-5189 ext. 103 eric.palmen@belwin.org
Directions to Site: 1553 Stagecoach Trail South, Afton, MN www.belwin.org/directions/

September 21

Ogilvie – Ann Lake WMA - MN DNR Dave Pauley 10am – 3pm Alders/Willows
Dave Pauley's Contact Info: 763-689-7108
Directions to Site:

September 22

Hinckley – St. Croix State Park. – MN DNR
Savannah Restoration

Gretchen Heaser 10am – 3pm

Gretchen Heaser's Contact Info: 320-384-7957 x 228 gretchen.heaser@dnr.state.mn.us

Directions to Site: St. Croix State Park is 15 miles east of Hinckley on State Hwy 48, then 5 miles south on Co Rd 22. All non-government vehicles will need a daily or seasonal park pass to enter St. Croix State Park.

September 23

Aurora – Koste and MN DNR

Jodie Provost

10am – 3pm

Alder/Willows

Jodie Provost's Contact Info: 218-927-2982 x 249

jodie.provost@dnr.state.mn.us

Directions to Site: From Aurora take Co Rd 100 about 7 miles south then Trigstad Road 1 mile west to Lane 57. Turn north on Lane 57 and park along road side to watch demo to east. Suggested to NOT park on Trigstad Road.

September 24

Hibbing – MN DNR

Kevin Bergstrand

10am – 3 pm

Aspen regeneration

Kevin Bergstrand Contact Info:

Kevin.Bergstrand@dnr.state.mn.us

We are going to be going to Stand 705 in Section 3 of T59-R21

Directions from Hibbing:

Take State Hwy 169 North out of Hibbing to HWY 5

Go approx. 13.5 miles North on Hwy 5 to Shannon Lake Forest Road (turn Right)

Go approx. 2.3 Miles east on Shannon Rd to wire gate/ parking area.

Follow signs from intersection of HWY 5 and Shannon Rd to the site

Link to Video of Bio-baler in operation

<http://www.fldbiodmass.com/en/forestry/biobal-wb55>

Click on “Media” tab to go to video

Sponsors of the FLD Biobaler WB55 Demo Tour – Minnesota

- Belwin Conservancy
- The Blandin Foundation
- CINRAM/Department of Forest Resources—University of Minnesota
- Iron Range Resources
- Minnesota DNR
- Minnesota Power
- The Minnesota Prairie Chicken Society
- The Minnesota Sharptailed Grouse Society
- The Nature Conservancy
- Rural Advantage
- Southern MN Initiative Foundation
- University of Laval—Canada
- University of Minnesota Extension
- University of Minnesota Southern Research and Outreach Center—Waseca
- The Wildlife Management Institute
- Woodcock Minnesota

Full Tour Agenda

8:00am – 10:00am	Allow operator time for machine maintenance and set-up
10:00am – 12:30pm	Harvest Demonstration
12:30pm – 1:30pm	Q/A session with operator and host
1:30pm – 3:00pm	Harvest
3:00pm - ?	Loading and Transportation

- * The Demonstration Tour will be open to the public from 10am to 3pm.
- * Lunch is on your own.
- * Event will be held rain or shine.
- * All events will be outside in fields/forested areas. Please dress appropriately.